Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Cancel).

2. (Previously Presented) A graphical user interface (GUI) control method comprising:

displaying a cover screen hiding an inherent screen operated by a base software, which is different from an overlay software that operates said cover screen, on a display device;

analyzing the inherent screen having a GUI widget operated by the base software, said analyzing being performed by the overlay software external to the base software to automatically generate a guidance for subsequent sequence of action on a GUI widget on the cover screen; and

displaying an applicable use of said base software that operates said inherent screen in a menu form on said cover screen;

wherein when an operation on the menu on said cover screen is performed through acting on a GUI widget, an operation equivalent to the operation performed on the GUI widget on said cover screen is executed on the inherent screen of said base software in accordance with previously registered widget-relation information and not in accordance with any execution of said base software.

3. (Previously Presented) A graphical user interface (GUI) control method comprising:

(a) a step of previously registering in a storage unit an applicable use of a first software adapted for running on a computer, said first software having a GUI;

(b) a step of displaying a registered use of said first software in a menu on a screen of a display device, inputting an operational sequence of said first software, as required for utilizing said first software in said use, to register in said storage unit, for each use displayed on said menu; and

(c) a step comprising: booting, on selection of the use from said menu, the first software as required for the selected use; detecting in what location in the screen a GUI

widget to be acted on next, in accordance with the operating sequence previously registered for the selected use, is displayed; and displaying the detected GUI widget in a highlighted fashion on the screen in accordance with a detected display location of said GUI widget, said GUI widget being displayed and controlled by a second software external to and independent of the first software; and

(d) a step comprising: detecting an action on said GUI widget; in accordance with a previously registered operating sequence, detecting in what position on the screen a GUI widget to be acted on next is displayed by analyzing the screen displayed by said first software, said detection being performed by said second software external to said first software; and displaying said GUI widget in a highlighted fashion on said screen, in accordance with the detected display location of said GUI widget.

4. (Currently Amended) A graphical user interface (GUI) control method comprising:

(a) a step of previously registering in a storage unit an applicable use of a base software adapted for running on a computer, said base software having a GUI;

(b) a step of detecting booting of said base software, and displaying the applicable use of said base software on a screen of a display device;

(c) a step of registering in the storage unit an operating sequence of said base software for utilizing the base software in said applicable use, for each of the applicable use displayed on ~~said~~ a menu provided on said screen;

(d) a step comprising: detecting, on selection of the applicable use from said menu, in what location in the screen a GUI widget to be acted on next is displayed, in accordance with an operating sequence previously registered for the selected applicable use by analyzing the screen displayed by said base software, said detecting being performed by an overlay software external to said base software; and of displaying the detected GUI widget in a highlighted fashion on said screen in accordance with the detected display location of said GUI widget, said GUI widget being displayed and controlled by said overlay software external to and independent of said base software;

(e) a step of detecting an action on said GUI widget; and

(f) a step of instructing, in accordance with said previously registered operating sequence, to detect in what position on the screen a GUI widget to be acted on next is displayed, and displaying said GUI widget in a highlighted fashion on said screen, in

accordance with the detected display location of said GUI widget and not in accordance with any execution of said base software.

5. (Previously Presented) A graphical user interface (GUI) control method executed on an overlay software program overlying one or more base software programs, comprising executing said overlay software program to perform:

(a) a step of registering in a storage unit an applicable use of a first base software program adapted for running on a computer, said first base software program having a GUI;

(b) a step of displaying said applicable use in a menu on a screen of a display device and booting, on selection of the applicable use from said menu, a second base software program as required for the selected applicable use;

(c) a step of previously registering in a storage unit a screenshot for utilizing the booted second base software program in the selected applicable use, as a cover screen;

(d) a step of hiding an inherent screen of the second base software program from view and visibly displaying said cover screen;

(e) a step of detecting an action on a GUI widget displayed on said cover screen, followed by displaying a next cover screen, said GUI widget on said cover screen being operated externally of said first and second base software programs by said overlay software program;

(f) a step of previously registering in said storage unit widget-relation information as to what GUI widget on the inherent screen of said second base software program is to be acted on upon acting on any GUI widget on said cover screen;

(g) a step of detecting, in accordance with the registered widget-relation information, in what location on the inherent screen of said second base software program the GUI widget to be acted on next is being displayed by analyzing the screen displayed by said second base software program, said detecting being performed by said overlay software program external to and independent of said first and second base software programs;

(h) a step of issuing an operating event to the detected GUI widget;

(i) a step of previously registering the widget-relation information as to in which GUI widget on said cover screen the data displayed on a GUI widget on the inherent screen of said second base software program is to be copied; and

(j) copying the data displayed on the GUI widget on the inherent screen on said cover screen in accordance with the registered widget relation information and not in accordance with any execution of said first or second base software programs.

6. (Previously Presentd) A graphical user interface (GUI) control method comprising:

(a) a step of previously registering in a storage unit an applicable use of a base software adapted for running on a computer, said base software having a GUI;

(b) a step of previously registering in said storage unit, a screenshot for utilizing said base software in said applicable use as a cover screen;

(c) a step of detecting booting of said base software and hiding from view of an inherent screen of the booted base software, thereby visibly displaying said registered cover screen in place of said inherent screen and displaying the applicable use of said booted base software in a menu on the cover screen;

(d) a step of displaying, on selection of said applicable use from said menu, said cover screen being registered for the selected applicable use;

(e) a step of detecting an action on a GUI widget displayed on said cover screen to display a next cover screen, said GUI widget being operated by an overlay software external to and independent of the base software of said inherent screen;

(f) a step of previously registering, in said storage unit, widget-relation information as to what GUI widget on the inherent screen of said base software is to be actuated upon actuation of any GUI widget on said cover screen;

(g) a step of detecting in what location on the inherent screen of said base software the GUI widget to be actuated next is to be displayed in accordance with the registered widget-relation information by analyzing the inherent screen displayed by said base software, said detection being operated by said overlay software external to and independent of said base software to automatically generate a guidance for subsequent sequence of action on a GUI widget on the cover screen;

(h) a step of issuing an operating event on said detected GUI widget;

(i) previously registering, in said storage unit, widget correspondence information as to in what GUI widget on said cover screen, data displayed on the GUI widget on the inherent screen of said base software is to be copied; and

(j) a step of copying data displayed in the GUI widget on the inherent screen of said base software to the GUI widget on said cover screen in accordance with the widget correspondence information registered in step (i) and not in accordance with any execution of said base software.

7. (Previously Presented) The graphical user interface control method as defined in claim 3 wherein said first software is not modified in executing said GUI control.

8. (Previously Presented) An information processing apparatus comprising:

a controller managing control so that an applicable use of a base software is displayed in a menu form on a screen of a display device by an overlay software external to said base software in a relative positional relation to the screen displayed by said base software, said base software having no function of displaying and highlighting a graphical user interface (GUI) widget to be operated next, so that, upon selection of one use on said menu, a GUI widget to be acted on next is displayed in a highlighted fashion from others GUI widgets on the screen, in accordance with a previously registered operating sequence that does not utilize said base software, and detecting a displayed position of the GUI widget to be operated next by analyzing the screen displayed by said base software, said detection being operated by said overlay software external to and independent of said base software,

said controller guiding the operating sequence for realizing said selected use.

9. (Previously Presented) An information processing apparatus comprising:

a controller managing control by running an overlay program operating a cover screen and a base program operating an inherent screen, said overlay program different from and external to said base program, said cover screen hiding said inherent screen, said controller running the overlay program to analyze said inherent screen having a GUI widget operated by said base program to automatically generate a guidance for subsequent sequence of action on a GUI widget on said cover screen, and said controller displaying an applicable use of said base program that operates said inherent screen in a menu on said cover screen, and so that, upon an action being taken on said menu of said cover screen, an action equivalent to said action taken on said menu of said cover screen is executed on the inherent screen in accordance with a previously registered operating sequence and not in accordance with any execution of said base software, said controller further controlling detection of the location on

the inherent screen of said base program of a GUI widget to be actuated next in accordance with the registered operating sequence by analyzing the inherent screen displayed by said base program.

10. (Currently Amended) A graphical user interface (GUI) control apparatus comprising:

(a) a use menu display unit displaying, in a menu, an applicable use of a base software adapted for running on a computer, said base software having a GUI;

(b) a use menu registration unit previously registering a use menu displayed by said use menu display unit;

(c) a use selection detection unit detecting, on selection of one use from the use menu displaying on said use menu display unit, which use has been selected;

(d) a software booting unit booting a portion of said base software required for the selected use;

(e) an operational sequence registration unit previously registering an operational sequence for acting on said base software in the selected use;

(f) a widget detection unit detecting in what location on the screen a GUI widget to be acted on next is to be displayed on a screenshot, in accordance with the operating sequence registered for the selected use by said operational sequence registration unit, said GUI widget being operated externally of said base software for the selected use;

(g) an operation target widget indicating unit displaying the GUI widget detected by said widget detection unit in a highlighted fashion on a screenshot, said GUI widget being operated by overlay software externally of said base software for the selected use; and

(h) an operation detection unit detecting an action made on a GUI widget detected by said widget detection unit and instructing the widget detection unit to detect, in accordance with an operating sequence registered by said operational sequence registration unit and not in accordance with any execution of said base software, in what location on the screenshot the GUI widget to be acted on next is displayed by analyzing said screenshot displayed by said base software, said operation detection unit being operated by said overlay software external to and independent of said base software.

11. (Currently Amended) A graphical user interface (GUI) control apparatus comprising:

(a) software booting detecting means for detecting booting of a base software adapted for running on a computer, said base software having a GUI;

(b) use menu display means for displaying, in a menu, an applicable use of a booted base software;

(c) use menu registration means for previously registering a use menu displayed by said use menu display means;

(d) use selection detection means for detecting, on selection of the use from the use menu displayed by said use menu display means, which use has been selected;

(e) operational sequence registration means for previously registering an operational sequence for acting on said base software in the selected use;

(f) widget detection means for detecting, in accordance with an operational sequence registered for the selected use, by said operational sequence registration means, in what location on a screenshot a GUI widget to be acted on next is displayed by analyzing said screenshot displayed by said base software, said widget detection means being operated external to and independent of said base software;

(g) operation target widget indicating means for displaying the GUI widget detected by said widget detection means in a highlighted fashion on a screenshot, said GUI widget being operated by an overlay software external to and independent of said base software for the selected use;

(h) operation detection means for detecting an action on a GUI widget detected by said widget detection means and for instructing said widget detection means to detect, in accordance with an operational sequence registered by said operational sequence registration means, in what location on the screenshot the GUI widget to be acted on next is displayed.

12. (Previously Presented) The graphical user interface control apparatus as defined in claim 10 further comprising:

means for displaying a GUI widget for notifying the completion of processing on a current screen;

said operation detection unit detecting an operation performed on the GUI widget detected by said widget detection unit or on the GUI widget displayed on the screen.

13. (Previously Presented) The graphical user interface control apparatus as defined in claim 11 further comprising:

means for displaying a GUI widget for notifying the completion of processing on a current screen;

said operation detection means detecting an operation performed on the GUI widget detected by said widget detection unit or on the GUI widget displayed on the screen.

14. (Previously Presented) A graphical user interface (GUI) control apparatus comprising:

(a) use menu displaying means for demonstrating on a menu an applicable use of base software operating on a computer, said base software having a GUI;

(b) use menu registration means for previously registering a use menu demonstrated by said use menu displaying means;

(c) use selection detection means for detecting a use selected from the use menu demonstrated by said use menu displaying means;

(d) software booting means for booting base software necessary for the selected use;

(e) cover screen registration means for previously registering, as a cover screen, a screenshot for utilizing the booted base software in the selected use;

(f) cover screen display means for hiding an inherent screen of said booted base software and for visibly demonstrating the cover screen registered by said cover screen registration means in place of the inherent screen;

(g) operation detection means for detecting an operation on a GUI widget demonstrated on said cover screen to instruct said cover screen display means to display a next cover screen;

(h) widget-relation information registration means for previously registering widget-relation information as to which GUI widget on said inherent screen of said base software is to be acted on depending on any GUI widget on said cover screen that has been acted on;

(i) widget detection means for detecting, depending on said widget-relation information registered by said widget-relation information registration means, in what location on the inherent screen of said base software the GUI widget to be acted on next is displayed by analyzing said inherent screen displayed by said base software, to automatically generate a guidance for subsequent sequence of action on a GUI widget on said cover screen,

said widget detection means being operated solely by overlay software external to and independent of said base software; and

(j) operation event issuing means for issuing an operating event on said GUI widget detected by said widget detection means;

(k) wherein widget correspondence information is previously registered by said widget-relation information registration means, said information being as to data displayed in any GUI widget on said inherent screen is to be copied in which GUI widget on the cover screen of said overlay software; and

(l) wherein there is provided displayed data copying means for copying the data displayed in a GUI widget on the inherent screen of said base software in said GUI widget on said cover screen in accordance with said widget correspondence information and not in accordance with any execution of said base software.

15. (Previously Presented) A graphical user interface (GUI) control apparatus comprising:

(a) use menu registration means for previously registering an applicable use of base software;

(b) cover screen registration means for previously registering a screenshot for using said base software for said applicable use as a cover screen;

(c) cover screen displaying means for detecting the booting of said base software, hiding an inherent screen of said booted base software and visibly demonstrating the cover screen registered by said cover screen registration means in place of the inherent screen;

(d) use menu displaying means for demonstrating the applicable use of said booted base software as a menu on the cover screen demonstrated by said cover screen displaying means;

(e) use selection detection means for detecting, on selection of a use from said menu, which use has been selected;

(f) operation detection means for detecting an operation on a GUI widget displayed on said cover screen, said GUI widget being operated by an overlay software external to and independent of the base software of said inherent screen;

(g) widget-relation information registration means for previously registering widget-relation information indicating which GUI widget on an inherent screen on said base software is to be actuated on actuation of any GUI widget on said cover screen;

(h) widget detection means for detecting in what location on an inherent screen of said base software the GUI widget to be acted on next is demonstrated in accordance with widget-relation information registered by said widget-relation information registration means by analyzing said inherent screen displayed by said base software, to automatically generate a guidance for subsequent sequence of action on a GUI widget on said cover screen, said widget detection means being operated solely by overlay software external to and independent of said base software; and

(i) operating event issuing means for issuing an operating event for a GUI widget detected by said widget detection means;

(j) wherein widget correspondence information is previously registered by said widget correspondence information registration means such that data displayed in any GUI widget on said inherent screen is to be copied in which GUI widget on the cover screen of said overlay software; and

(k) wherein there is provided displayed data copying means for copying the data displayed in a GUI widget on the inherent screen of said base software in said GUI widget on said cover screening in accordance with said widget correspondence information.

16. (Previously Presented) A computer readable program product for causing a computer having at least a display device and an input device to execute the processing comprising the steps of:

(a) use menu displaying step of demonstrating on a menu an applicable use of base software having a graphical user interface (GUI);

(b) use menu registration step of previously registering the use menu demonstrated by said use menu displaying processing;

(c) use selection detection step of detecting the use selected from the use menu demonstrated by said use menu displaying step;

(d) software booting step of booting base software necessary for the selected use;

(e) operating sequence registration step of previously registering an operating sequence for acting on said base software in the selected use;

(f) widget detecting step of detecting in which location on a screenshot a GUI widget to be acted on next is displayed in accordance with an operating sequence registered for the selected use by analyzing said screenshot displayed by said base software, said widget detecting step being operated by overlay software external to and independent of said base

software, and said GUI widget being operated external to and independent of said base software;

(g) operating target widget indication step of demonstrating the GUI widget detected by said widget detecting step in a highlighted fashion on a screenshot; and

(h) instructing the widget detecting step of detecting an operation on the GUI widget detected by said widget detecting step to detect in which location in a screenshot the GUI widget to be acted on next is displayed.

17. (Previously Presented) A computer readable program product for causing a computer having at least a display device and an input device to execute the processing comprising the steps of:

(a) software booting detection step of detecting booting of a base software having a graphical user interface (GUI);

(b) use menu displaying step of demonstrating on a menu an applicable use of said base software having the GUI;

(c) use menu registration step of previously registering the use menu demonstrated by said use menu displaying step;

(d) use selection detection step of detecting the use selected from the use menu demonstrated by said use menu displaying step;

(e) operating sequence registration step of previously registering an operating sequence for acting on said base software in the selected use;

(f) widget detecting step of detecting in which location on a screenshot a GUI widget to be acted on next is displayed in accordance with an operating sequence registered for the selected use by analyzing said screenshot displayed by said base software, said widget detecting step being operated solely by overlay software external to and independent of said base software, said GUI widget being operated external to and independent of said base software;

(g) operating target widget indication step of demonstrating the GUI widget detected by said widget detecting step in a highlighted fashion on a screenshot; and

(h) operation detection step instructing the widget detecting step to detect an operation on the GUI widget detected by said widget detecting step to detect in which location in a screenshot the GUI widget to be acted on next is displayed.

18. (Previously Presented) The program product as defined in claim 16, said processing further comprising:

a widget displaying step of displaying a GUI widget for notifying the completion of the step on a current screen;

said operation detection step causing said computer to execute detecting an operating an operation on a GUI widget detected by said widget detection step or a GUI widget demonstrated by said widget display step.

19. (Previously Presented) The program product as defined in claim 17, said processing further comprising:

a widget displaying step of displaying a GUI widget for notifying the completion of the step on a current screen;

said operation detection step causing said computer to execute detecting an operation on a GUI widget detected by said widget detection step or a GUI widget demonstrated by said widget display step.

20. (Previously Presented) A computer readable program product for causing a computer having at least a display device and an input device to execute the processing comprising the steps of:

(a) use menu displaying step of demonstrating on a menu an applicable use of base software having a graphical user interface (GUI);

(b) use menu registration step of previously registering the use menu demonstrated by said use menu displaying step;

(c) use selection detection step of detecting the use selected from the use menu demonstrated by said use menu displaying step;

(d) software booting step of booting base software necessary for the selected use;

(e) cover screen registration step of previously registering, as cover screen, a screenshot for exploiting the booted base software in the selected use;

(f) cover screen display step of hiding an inherent screen of said booted base software and for visibly displaying the cover screen registered by said cover screen registration step in place of the inherent screen;

(g) operation detection step of detecting an operation on a GUI widget displayed on said cover screen to instruct said cover screen registration step to display said cover

screen, to automatically generate a guidance for subsequent sequence of action on a GUI widget on the cover screen, said GUI widget being operated by an overlay software external to and independent of the base software of said inherent screen;

(h) widget-relation information registration step of previously registering widget-relation information as to which GUI widget on said inherent screen of said base software is to be acted on depending on any GUI widget on said cover screen has been acted on;

(i) widget detection step of detecting, depending on said widget-relation information as to in what location on the inherent screen of said base software the GUI widget to be acted on next is demonstrated, by analyzing the inherent screen of said base software, said widget detection step being operated by said overlay software external to and independent of said base software; and

(j) operation event issuing step of issuing an operating event on said GUI widget detected by said widget detection step;

(k) a step of previously registering said widget-relation information as to data displayed on any GUI widget on said inherent screen of said base software is to be copied in which GUI widget on the cover screen; and

(l) displayed data copying step of copying the data displayed in a GUI widget on the inherent screen of said base software in said GUI widget on said cover screen in accordance with said widget-relation information.

21. (Previously Presented) A computer readable program product for causing a computer having at least a display device and an input device to execute the processing comprising the steps of:

(a) use menu registering step of previously registering an applicable use of base software;

(b) cover screen registration step of previously registering a screenshot for using said base software for said application as a cover screen;

(c) cover screen displaying step of detecting booting of said base software, hiding an inherent screen of said booted base software and visibly displaying the cover screen registered by said cover screen registration step in place of said inherent screen;

(d) use menu displaying step of displaying the applicable use of said booted base software as a menu on the cover screen displayed by said cover screen display step;

(e) use selection detection step of detecting, on selection of a use from said menu, which use has been selected;

(f) operation detection step of detecting an operation on a graphical user interface (GUI) widget displayed on said cover screen;

(g) widget-relation information registration step of previously registering widget-relation information indicating which GUI widget on an inherent screen on said base software is to be actuated upon actuation of any GUI widget on said cover screen, said GUI widget being operated external to and independent of the base software of said inherent screen;

(h) widget detection step of detecting in what location on an inherent screen of said base software the GUI widget to be acted on next is demonstrated in accordance with said widget-relation information, by analyzing the inherent screen of said base software, to automatically generate a guidance for subsequent sequence of action on a GUI widget on said cover screen, said widget detection step being operated solely by overlay software external to and independent of said base software; and

(i) operating event issuing step of issuing an operating event for a GUI widget detected by said widget detection step;

(j) previously registering, by said widget-relation information registration step, in which GUI widget on said cover screen data displayed any GUI widget on the inherent screen of said base software is to be copied; and

(k) displayed data copying step of copying the data displayed in a GUI widget on the inherent screen of said base software in said GUI widget on said cover screen in accordance with said widget-relation information.

22. (Previously Presented) A graphical user interface (GUI) control apparatus for an information processing apparatus having a display device, a storage device, and a program-controlled processing device, comprising:

(a) a use menu displaying unit demonstrating on a menu an applicable use of base software having a GUI;

(b) a use menu registration unit previously registering the use menu demonstrated by said use menu displaying unit in a use menu;

(c) a use selection detection unit detecting the use selected from the use menu demonstrated by said use menu displaying unit on said display device;

(d) a software booting unit booting base software necessary for the selected use;

(e) an operating sequence registration unit previously registering an operating sequence for acting on said base software in the selected use;

(f) a widget detecting unit detecting in what location on a screenshot a GUI widget to be acted on next is displayed in accordance with an operating sequence registered for the selected use by said operating sequence registration unit, by analyzing the screenshot of said base software, said widget detection unit being operated by overlay software external to said base software, and said GUI widget being operated external to and independent of said base software;

(g) an operating target widget indication unit demonstrating the GUI widget detected by said widget detecting unit in a highlighted fashion on a screenshot of said display device; and

(h) an operation detecting unit detecting an operation on the GUI widget detected by said widget detecting unit to instruct the widget detecting unit to detect in what location in said screen the GUI widget to be acted on next is displayed in accordance with an operational sequence registered by said operating sequence registration unit and not in accordance with any execution of said base software.

23. (Previously Presented) A graphical user interface (GUI) control apparatus for an information processing apparatus having a display device, an input device, a storage device, and a program-controlled processing device, comprising:

(a) a use menu displaying unit demonstrating on a menu an applicable use of base software having a GUI;

(b) a use menu registration unit previously registering the use menu demonstrated by said use a menu displaying unit in a use menu;

(c) a use selection detection unit detecting the use selected through said input unit from the use menu demonstrated by said use menu displaying unit;

(d) a software booting unit booting base software necessary for the selected use;

(e) a cover screen registration unit previously registering a screenshot for using said booted base software in the selected use as a cover screen;

(f) a cover screen displaying unit hiding an inherent screen of said booted base software and visibly demonstrating the cover screen registered by said cover screen registration unit in place of the inherent screen on said display device;

(g) an operation detection unit detecting an operation on a GUI widget displayed on said cover screen, said GUI widget being operated external to and independent of the base software of said inherent screen;

(h) a widget-relation information registration unit previously registering widget-relation information indicating which GUI widget on an inherent screen on said base software is to be actuated upon actuation of which GUI widget on said cover screen;

(i) a widget detection unit detecting in which location on an inherent screen of said base software the GUI widget to be acted on next is demonstrated in accordance with said widget-relation information, by analyzing the inherent screen of said base software, to automatically generate a guidance for subsequent sequence of action on a GUI widget on said cover screen, said widget detection unit being operated by said overlay software external to and independent of said base software; and

(j) an operating event issuing unit issuing an operating event for a GUI widget detected by said widget detection unit;

(k) wherein it is previously registered by said widget-relation information registration processing unit, in GUI widget on said cover screen data displayed in any GUI widget on the inherent screen of said base software is to be copied; and

(l) wherein there is provided a displayed data copying unit copying the data displayed in a GUI widget on the inherent screen of said base software into a GUI widget on said cover screen in accordance with said widget-relation information and not in accordance with any execution of said base software.

24. (Previously Presented) A graphical user interface (GUI) control method executed on an overlay software program overlying a base software program comprising executing said overlay software program to perform the steps of:

(a) displaying, in a menu form, applicable user functions of said base software program running on a computer having a display screen, said base software program displaying a plurality of GUI widgets for permitting a user to interface with said base program, said base software program having no function of highlighting a GUI widget from among said plurality of GUI widgets to be operated next by the user;

(b) detecting a displayed position of a GUI widget to be operated next by analyzing the screen displayed by said base software program in accordance with an operating sequence previously registered in a storage unit and not in accordance with any execution of

said base software program, the detecting being performed to automatically generate a guidance for subsequent sequence of action on a GUI widget on the screen;

(c) highlighting a GUI widget corresponding to the detected position from among said plurality of GUI widgets, to be operated next by the user upon selection by the user of one of said displayed applicable user functions; and

wherein said detecting a displayed position of a GUI widget and highlighting said GUI widget are performed upon each operation of said operating sequence to realize said selected user function and not in accordance with any execution of said base software program.

25. (Previously Presented) A method of providing a computer user with guidance in performing a desired function, said method comprising:

displaying on a display device of a user computer a menu of applicable functions of a base software program running on said computer;

retrieving an interaction sequence file corresponding to a user selected function from said menu;

detecting, by analyzing a screen generated by said base software program, the displayed location of a GUI widget to be operated next by the user as determined from said interaction sequence file and not in accordance with any execution of said base software program;

highlighting said GUI widget; and

accepting a user interaction with said GUI widget;

wherein said method is performed by an overlay software program external to and independent of said base software program.

26. (Previously Presented) A method of providing a computer user with guidance in performing a desired function according to claim 25, wherein said method further comprises displaying a message to the user regarding the GUI widget.